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Title : Need to provide compensation to farmers whose crops have been affected due to unseasonal rains and hailstorm in Orissa.

SHRI B. MAHTAB : Sir, large parts of Orissa were hit by a hailstorm recently causing extensive damage to the standing crops and houses. Erstwhile Sambalpur district, namely, Bargarh, Jharsuguda, Sambalpur, Deogarh, Kalahandi and Sundargarh and some parts of coastal belt have been affected and suffered the most as roofs of several houses have been damaged, while standing crops have been lost. This hailstorm is unprecedented in terms of timing and intensity.

I would urge upon the Government to come forward with a package to help the distressed farmers in all possible manner. There is a need to take Gram Panchayats as a unit for assessment of crop loss. The Central Government may send a special team to the affected areas to assess the extent of damage and to provide support and assistance at the earliest. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (KALAHANDI): I would like to associate with this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: No. I am allowing only those who have given notices.